

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

U.S. Appln. No. 09/576,957

metal material selected from the group consisting of aluminum, tantalum, niobium, titanium, zirconium and an alloy thereof.

12. (Amended) The method for producing a solid electrolytic capacitor as claimed in [any one of] claim[s] 1 or 2 [to 7], wherein the solid electrolyte is a polymer solid electrolyte containing as a repeating unit at least one of a divalent group of any one of pyrrole, thiophene, aniline and furan, or any substituted derivative thereof.

14. (Amended) The method for producing a solid electrolytic capacitor as claimed in claim 12 [or 13], wherein the solid electrolyte further contains a dopant of an arylsulfonic salt.

24. (Amended) The apparatus for coating a masking agent as claimed in [any one of] claim[s] 20 [to 23], wherein the substrate is formed of a valve-acting metal, and the coating surface of the rotating disk comes into contact with the substrates at a pressing force which does not exceed the elastic limit of the substrate.

25. (Amended) The apparatus for coating a masking agent as claimed in [any one of] claim[s] 20 [to 23], wherein the rotating disk is formed of a steel material or ceramic material.

26. (Amended) The apparatus for coating a masking agent as claimed in [any one of] claim[s] 20 [to 25], wherein the scraper is in the form of a blade which makes line contact with the coating surface of the rotating disk and which is formed of a resin or a steel softer than the material of the rotating disk.